

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-09 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12 MBFR-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9355

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1301

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, NATO

SUBJECT: MILITARY PLANNING FACTORS

SUMMARY. TEXT OF PO/73/34, " MILITARY PLANNING FACTORS", IS QUOTED BELOW. PO ASKS FOR " APPROVAL OF DPC/ D(73)4 AND CONSEQUENTLY OF MC 55/2, APPENDICES A AND B UNDER THE SILENCE PROCEDURE" BY 30 MARCH. WE HOPE WASHINGTON IS ABLE TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF DPC/ D(73)4, WHICH WOULD PLACE NEW READINESS AND AVAILABILITY CATEGORIZATIONS OF MC 55/2 APPENDIX A INTO EFFECT FOR DEFENSE PLANNING REVIEW AND ACCEPT MC 55/2 APPENDIX B FOR SUPPLY PLANNING PURPOSES; IF NOT, WE WOULD APPRECIATE INDICATION OF COURSE OF ACTION DESIRED. END SUMMARY.

1. TEXT OF PO/73/34 IS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:

ON 16 TH JULY, 1971, THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE WAS ASKED BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE ADOPTION OF A NEW SYSTEM FOR INDICATING THE READINESS AND AVAILABILITY OF NATO FORCES (MC55/2, APPENDIX A). THE COMMITTEE DECIDED (DPC/ R(71)12) TO REFER THIS DOCUMENT TO THE DEFENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR EXAMINATION IN RELATION TO ITS USE IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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CONTEXT OF " POLITICO- MILITARY PLANNING ACTIVITIES". IN JULY 1972, THE MILITARY COMMITTEE FORWARDED A SIMILAR DOCUMENT

(MC 55/2, APPENDIX B) WHICH SET OUT A REVISED POLICY FOR THEATRE HOLDINGS OF OPERATIONAL STOCKS AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR RE- SUPPLY. THIS DOCUMENT WAS ALSO REFERRED FOR EXAMINATION BY THE DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE.

2. THE REPORT OF THE DEFENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON BOTH DOCUMENTS IS NOW AVAILABLE AND HAS BEEN CIRCULATED IN THE FORM OF DPC/ D(73)4. PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES WILL NOTE THAT THE COMMITTEE HAS CONCLUDED THAT WHILE THE NEW CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM FOR NATO FORCES IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY COMPREHENSIVE TO BE APPLIED TO ALL POLITICO- MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN NATO, IT DOES PROVIDE A COMMON SYSTEM OF CATEGORIZATION FOR ALL THREE SERVICES, AND WILL GIVE A MORE ACCURATE INDICATION OF THE READINESS AND AVAILABILITY OF FORCES THAN THE DOCUMENT (MC 55/1) WHICH IT SUPERSEDES. THE COMMITTEE ALSO RECOMMENDS THAT THE PROPOSED NEW POLICY ON STOCK HOLDING SHOULD BE ADOPTED.

3. THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THESE TWO DOCUMENTS IS SOMEWHAT TECHNICAL AND COMPLICATED. NEVERTHELESS THE REPORT OF THE DEFENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE NOW BEFORE US REPRESENTS THE AGREED DECISION OF ALL COUNTRIES REPRESENTED UPON IT WITH ONE EXCEPTION. THIS DELEGATION HAS NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO EXPRESS A FIRM VIEW ON EITHER DOCUMENT, BUT HOPES TO BE ABLE TO DO SO SHORTLY. MEANWHILE THERE IS SOME URGENCY IN REACHING A DECISION, AS THE PROCESSES FOR INITIATING THE 1973 DEFENCE REVIEW ARE NOW IN HAND, AND THE QUESTIONNAIRE SHOULD BE ISSUED SHORTLY. AN EARLY DECISION IS REQUIRED ON THE SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION WHICH COUNTRIES SHOULD USE IN REPLY.

4. PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES MIGHT AGREE THAT THIS SUBJECT IS NOT VERY SUITABLE FOR DISCUSSION IN THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE. I HAVE THEREFORE DECIDED TO ASK FOR APPROVAL OF DPC/ D(73)4 AND CONSEQUENTLY OF MC 55/2, APPENDICES A AND B UNDER THE SILENCE PROCEDURE. IF I DO NOT HEAR TO THE CONTRARY BY 30 TH MARCH, I WILL ASSUME THAT ALL THESE DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN APPROVED. END TEXT.

5. COMMENT. WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR IN DRC THAT US HAS NO DIFFICULTY WITH APPROVAL OF APPENDIX B OF MC 55/2; THIRD SENTENCE OF PARA 3
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OF PO/73/34 IS AN INACCURATE REFLECTION OF US VIEWS AS GIVEN TO THE DRC ON THIS POINT. END COMMENT
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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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